

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

It is bad enough that the stations are daily required to air along with each news broadcast, the obnoxious, prejudicial, blatantly biased comments from the Sinclair company Vice President, often accompanied by film footage and a hateful attitude, calling the segment EDITORIAL COMMENT, but now that the election campaigning is underway they have stepped up the hateful comments and become blatantly political in the views espoused by the Sinclair company.

I STRONGLY object to this practice.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.